NADELMAN, ELIE

DRAWER 22

Sculptors - N
(Busts)

Statues of Abraham Lincoln

Elie Nadelman

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2009.085.02891

Ralph Geoffrey Newman, Inc.

175 East Delaware Place * Chicago, Illinois 60611 * (312)787-1860

27 August 1980

Dear Jim:

Do your files reveal anything about Elie Nadelman, a Polish sculptor who came to the United States in 1914?

I enclose the only data I have been able to find and hope you can help me supplement it. Joseph Hirschhorn, who donated the great Hirschhorn Gallery in Washington to the United States has a fine Lincoln made by Nadelman and so far I have not been able to find any reference to his work. Even Mr Hirschhorn knows very little about it.

I hope that your excellent resources may be of some help.

Best,

Ralph

Ralph G. Newman

Mr James T. Hickey
Illinois State Historical Library
Old State Capitol
Springfield, Illinois 62706

ELIE NADELMAN

Born, Warsaw, Poland,	1882
Member, Russian Imperial Army,	1900
Attended Art Academy, Warsaw,	1901
Studied in Paris,	1904
Came to the United States,	1914
Exhibited at Arts Club, Chicago	1925

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Newman

September 16, 1980

Mr. Ralph G. Newman
175 East Delaware Place
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Ralph:

I received a letter intended for Jim Hickey. Assuming that you intended to ask the question of both of us, I am writing to tell you what I know about Elie Nadelman. John I.H. Bauer, former head of the Whitney Museum in New York, rates Nadelman very high. He says that only Gaston Lachaise of American sculptors before 1920 "rivaled Nadelman in formal innovations and creative vigor." The Whitney had a major Nadelman show in 1975, and it later went to the Hirshhorn. The first Nadelman retrospective was held in 1948 at the Museum of Modern Art. Among other things, he was famous for joining a modern "tubular" style with folk styles. The Zabriskie Gallery in New York handles Nadelman pieces from time to time. I have seen them there and in museums, and my personal opinion is that they are wonderful. I recall reading very favorable reviews of the Whitney show. Nadelman rarely dated his pieces and did not keep notes; therefore, it will be hard to date the piece, I imagine. I consulted The Sculpture and Drawings of Elie Nadelman, the Whitney catalogue, but there is a monograph on him by Lincoln Kirstein.

I hope this proves to be of some use.

Best regards,

Mark E. Neely, Jr.

MEN/jaf

September 16, 1946

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